

Maple Hill Residential Care Home 26 Union St Waterbury, VT 05676 (802) 244-6403 (802) 244-1486 Fax

April 3, 2018

Re: Minimum Wage Increase

Dear Sir or Madam:

I am writing this letter to everyone who is involved in the consideration of S.40 Minimum Wage Increase. Maple Hill Residential Care Home is a small employer in Waterbury, 10 employees. We provide residential care to elders who can no longer live on their own and require anywhere from supervision to total care under Hospice services. Our mission has been to serve any member of the community regardless of their payor source. At times, we have had 75% of our residents on Medicaid. The current hourly rate paid to Maple Hill Residential Care Home under the Assistive Community Care Services Medicaid program is \$10.86 per hour and Choices for Care Medicaid pays only \$6.90.

If the minimum wage is increased to \$15.00 per hour, our revenue will not support the necessary increases for long term employees or our professionally licensed staff. We will be forced to close our doors unless our Medicaid reimbursement is increased to match the increase in expenditure for wages. We operate at the line between profit and loss every day. The minimum wage increase will create an environment in which it will be impossible to staff our home adequately to support the residents we have.

Please take into consideration the elder population we serve and their needs. If residential care homes are forced out of business, the population we serve will be forced to stay home, with little to no support, or go into nursing homes. Both options will increase the medical costs to the Medicaid program with more hospital visits and the increased cost of the Nursing Home rates. Please take into account all the issues in regard to the increased minimum wage and how it will affect the Vermont community at large.

Sincerely,

David W. Anderson

Owner